be pressed in the budget ; and in the budget for 1098, a provision of Rs. 14,700 has been made under 'Forest Communications' and of Rs. 5,000 for the improvement of waterways.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: With reference to the answer to question No. 11, will the Government be pleased to say whether it was not the Conservator who made the suggestion that the improvement of communications in forests on a large scale would involve heavy outlay and the services of a special engineer?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: I am not in possession of the information now. I shall enquire and say whether the suggestion referred to was made by the Conservator.

ECONOMIC SURVEY OF FORESTS.

12. MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to say whether any Forest Officer has been deputed to continue the economic survey of the forests which the present Conservator was doing while he was Senior Deputy Conservator?

(*b*) If no one has been deputed till now, will the Government be pleased to depute the present Senior Deputy Conservator to continue the work?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) The question of detailing an officer to continue the economic survey is under consideration.

PURCHASE OF A ROLLER FOR THE FOREST DEPARTMENT.

13. MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: With reference to the roller, etc., got down by the Forest Department for use in its rubber plantations, will the Government be pleased to furnish the following information:—

(*a*) the destination of the roller, whether any other articles were got down along with it, through which Firm it was purchased, when and at what cost;

(*b*) if it did not reach the division for which it was intended, who took charge of it, why, and how long he kept it and for what reason it was so kept; and

(*c*) what has become of these articles and what steps have been taken by the Government for their recovery?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) A rubber roller and accessories were purchased by the late Mr. V. Raman Menon, when he was the Conservator of Forests, from Messrs Darragh Smail and Co., Alleppey, on the 27th May, 1920, for Bh.Rs. 524-12-0, for the use of the Perumtode Rubber Plantations.

(*b*) The roller and its stand are reported to have been broken by an accident and the late Conservator kept them with a view to have them repaired or replaced.

(*c*) He offered to repay their cost, if he could not have them repaired or replaced.

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